

**PIECES Advisory Council
Embassy Suites
May 14, 2004**

Present: Ginger Huffman, Randy Bridgette, Cathy Jones, Mary Francis Bleidt, Michelle Rollyson, Becky Gooch-Erbacher, Helen Post-Brown, Kay Tilton, Bill Huebner, Scott McClanahan, Pam Roush, Frank Caputo, Joan Faris, Kim Asonevich, Martha Walker, Kay Carpenter, Kathryn Boylan, Mary Ann Dean, Margie Hale, Dave Treharne, Ann Nutt, Judy Curry, Rashida Dickerson, Joan Skaggs, Barbara Myers, Tammy Hoover, Melanie Clark, Sandy Murphy

KEY POINTS DISCUSSED	KEY DECISIONS MADE
<p>Welcome Introductions Approval of Minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes were approved by acclamation with one correction on page 3 change ELCOA to ELLCO.
<p>Public Awareness Report (Margie Hale) The Public Awareness committee recommended that the PIECES Advisory Council adopt the Invest Wisely: Hearts, Minds, & Bodies logo/tagline. Discussion pursued on the use of the word “bodies” or “souls”. The council suggested leaving off both words “Bodies” and “Souls” and leaving the tagline <i>Invest Wisely: Hearts & Minds</i>.</p> <p>The Public Awareness committee recommended that the PIECES Advisory Council, in collaboration with other state stakeholders, establish a long-term strategic plan for early care and education. KIDS COUNT would host a workday for all stakeholders and a facilitator through the Technical Assistance grant from ZERO TO THREE would be contacted. The plan would include specific long term actions that include fiscal responsibility. Each year one or two parts of the plan would be the focus of the early care and education community’s efforts.</p> <p>Advisory Council discussed the issue of “ownership” of the strategic plan. Since PIECES was created and is staffed by two state agencies, can it be responsible for a “strategic policy agenda?” Who will advance and monitor progress?</p>	<p>Bill Huebner made the motion to accept <i>Invest Wisely: Hearts and Minds</i> logo/tagline. Kay Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried.</p> <p>Margie Hale made the motion to develop a long-term strategic plan for early care and education in WV. Randy Bridgette seconded the motion. Motion carried.</p> <p>PIECES was clearly charged to create a strategic plan for the Birth through Five early care and education system. Representatives on the Advisory Council who can serve as “advocates” will use their constituencies to advocate. Government staff will inform. Consensus points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop plan with specific actions and sound fiscal responsibility;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KIDS COUNT to host workday; • Begin to use <i>Invest Wisely</i> on written materials related to the plan; • Solicit support of a number of groups; and • Pursue using the July 9 Advisory Council meeting for the workday.
Public Comment	No Public Comment
<p>Head Start State Collaboration Office Supplemental Grant</p> <p>The Head Start Collaboration Project is being awarded a one time supplemental grant focusing on Unified Planning or Professional Development. The grant is to assist Head Start Grantees in the state to meet the Head Start Performance Standards. Bill is proposing two activities with the monies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sponsor an Early Childhood Administration Institute to focus on Management Skills (such as Personnel, Fiscal, Collaboration, etc.). This would include Head Start, Child Care, Public Education, and WV Birth to Three. 2. Participate with the West Virginia Community & Technical Colleges, WVDE, WVDHHR, and HEPC in hiring a consultant to work on an articulating career ladder for early education (entry to Bachelor and Teacher Certification). 	<p>Dave Treharne made the motion to use the money from the supplemental grant for these two purposes.</p> <p>Barbara Myers seconded the motion.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
<p>Updates:</p> <p>WV Pre-k</p> <p>Although the Early Childhood portion of the School Aid Funding survived the Legislative budget, the governor eliminated 1.4 million from the Early Childhood portion. Counties will receive pro-rated reductions unless funding is restored. It is anticipated that WV Pre-k will encounter opposition in the next legislative session.</p> <p>Child Care</p> <p>The TANF Advisory Council meet on May</p>	

<p>Curriculum Supplement statement for distribution to county WV Pre-k collaboratives.</p>	
<p>Ongoing Assessment Tools Evaluation The Quality Initiatives & Curriculum Committee has created an evaluation tool to evaluate the assessment tools for ongoing assessment of children’s progress on the learning criteria of the WV ELSF. Initial review will be of the tools that are a part of the WV Pre-k approved curricula. Review is primarily to provide information and correlation to the WV ELSF. Review will be in July.</p>	<p>Ann Nutt will email to Council members. Any changes/ comments need to be emailed to Ann Nutt.</p>
<p>Next Agenda If possible, Strategic Planning workday on July 9</p> <p>September PIECES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Well Being will present recommendations. 	